

Dane Benko  
883 Knickerbocker Avenue  
Apartment B  
Brooklyn, New York 11207

Dear Dane,

Thank you for your October 17, 2017 letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt regarding an assessment of radioactive hot spots in Niagara County, New York. The Administrator has asked me to respond.

# DRAFT

The three sites were sampled by EPA in 2013 and 2014 for the presence of soil and air contamination. The EPA used the sample results to perform a Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation on each of the sites. The EPA concluded that the sites did not meet the minimum criteria to be placed on the National Priorities List, also known as the federal Superfund list.

EPA's investigation of the Niagara Falls Boulevard site determined that material contaminated with radiation was located beneath the asphalt parking lot used by the bowling alley and a building supply center. EPA's Superfund Removal Program conducted additional sampling and analysis, and has begun the removal of contaminated material present at the site. Although the cleanup stopped temporarily earlier this year, EPA plans to continue the cleanup in the Spring of 2018, when additional funding is expected to be available.

EPA's investigation of the Holy Trinity Cemetery determined that further assessment of the site was needed to determine the in order to determine the extent of radiation contamination. While doing so, the Removal Program has installed fences along the perimeter of the areas of concern at the site and has addressed an indoor air issue at one residential property. Additional site characterization has been

performed and this information is being evaluated in an effort to determine what additional action will be necessary. This evaluation is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The EPA is also currently reviewing the data to determine if any cleanup work is necessary at a portion of the Upper Mountain Road site that includes part of a private driveway in the Town of Lewiston, New York. We anticipate that the evaluation of this property will also be completed by the end of the year.

The EPA has been coordinating with property and business owners, residents, New York State, Niagara County and local representatives throughout these activities and will continue to work with local stakeholders and officials regarding any additional sites that may warrant investigation.

If you have further questions, please contact me at (212) 637-4390 or Joseph Rotola, Chief of the Removal Action Branch, at (732) 321-6658.

Sincerely,

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